Song."

Mrs. Shir-Cliff, soprano of this choir, has recovered from her illness and will sing at both services.

Eckington.

The following Christmas music will be rendered by the choir of the Eckington Presbyterian Church, North Capitol street and Florida avenue, tomor row morning at 11 o'clock:

Carol, How Blest the Morn When
Christ Was Born, Schilling; anthem,
There Were Shepherds, Marks; solo, O
Holy Night, Adams, Paul A Hines.

At the evening service, 7:45 o'clock,
the music will be: Carol, Hark, the

the music will be: Carol, Hark, the Happy Bells Are Fealing, Schilling; anthem. Arise, Shine, Maker; anthem, Peace Upon Earth, Giebel; anthem for women's voices, There Were Shepherds, Foster; solo, Calm On the Listening Ear of Night, Manney, Mrs. Robert H. Davis.

The incidental solos in the anthems will be sung by Mrs. Robert H. Davis, soprano; Mrs. Milton C. White, alto; Paul A. Hines, tenor, and James L. Bates, bass.

Chevy Chase.

Exercises were held by the Sunday school at 7 o'clock. Thursday evening, consisting of addresses recitations and gry families in the city were filled by donations from the various classes, and a report was made of the contents of a liberal and valuable box sent to a home mission school founded a few years ago by the gifts of the Chevy Chase Sunday school Sunday school.

A Christmas sermon will be preached music will be

tomorrow morning and music w rendered suitable to the occasion. Fourth. The Christmas services of the Fourth

Presbyterian Church consisted of a "White Gift" service by church and school Wednesday evening, with gifts for the poor. The service of the Lord's Supper is to be held tomorrow morning, and a stereopticon lecture by W. H. H. Smith, o nthe "Birth and Infancy of Jesus," at the evening service. At all of these services appropriate Christ-mas music will be sung.

Christmas services are to be held at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning, when will be sung as follows: "Behold, I Bring You Good Tidings, Churchill; "Adore and Be Still," Gou-ned; "The Birthday of a King," Neid-

Inger.

The evening services at 7:30 o'clock are to include songs as follows; "Sing, O Heavens," Tours; "O Holy Night," Adam-Buck; "Blest Be Thou, O Christ Eternal," Gaines; "Holy Night, Peaceful Night," traditional; "O Sing to God Your Hymns of Gladness," Gounod; "Sing and Rejoice, O Daughter of Sion," Rarnhy

The music is to be rendered by Mrs. W. G. Wilmarth, soprano; Mrs. Armand Gumprecht, contralto; D. Austin Howard, tenor; S. Theodore Howard, bass, and chorus of twenty-five voices.

Wallace Memorial United. Christmas services were held last

Sunday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, opening with a prelude "Bells of hristmas," and "Festive March in A." The psaalter hymn, "Christ the Conjuering King," was then sung. There

quering King," was then sung. There was responsive Scripture reading and the choir sang "Joy to the World." Miss Mary Petrie sang, "A Legend of Cathay," and a carol, "Silent Night," was also sung.

Gifts of the cradle roll department were presented, after which the beginners' and primary departments sang "Away in a Manger." The members of these departments were also presented with gifts. There was a Scripture reading and song "O Little Town of Bethlehem," by the junior department. The junior class was presented with gifts, after which Miss Mildred Appleby gave a recitation, "They Gave Him Their Treasures."

Treasures."

Gifts were presented to the intermediate class, and Miss Cathryn De mediate class, and Miss Cathryn De Binder sang "Star of Bethlehem." Gifts were presented to the senior and adult classes and also to the home department. "The Triumphal Ascension of Christ," was sung by the congregation, and Rev. J. Alvin Campbell, the pastor, made a brief address.

Miss Berenice Finney told a Christmas story, "Why the Chimes Ring," and Supt. C. F. Windham of the Sunday school gave a summary of the gifts. The congregation sang "The Sway of the Prince of Peace," and following a responsive recital by the superintendent and Sunday school benediction was pronounced.

Eastern.

The morning service tomorrow will be at 11 o'clock. The choir has arranged for two special anthems, "Hark! What Mean Those Holy Voices," by R. M. Stults, and "There Were Shephards," by Schnecker. Mrs. Jesse Kester will sing, as a solo, "The Virgin's Lullaby," by Dudley Buck. The pastor, Rev. Alfred E. Barrows, will preach a Christmas sermon on the subject, "God

Christmas sermon on the subject, "God With Us."

The Christmas exercizes of the Sunday school will be held tomorrow evening at 6 o'clock. The subject of these exercises is the "White Gifts for the King." The organist, Miss Nellie Sacrey, will play as prelude, "Roper's Chimes." The school, led by the superintendent, George H. Campbell, will march into the church auditorium singing a processional. Following the prayer the school will sing, "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear." Then the lights will be lowered and a bright star appear while "Silent Night" is sung by the choir and the Christmas Bible story is told by Mrs. A. E. Barrows. After the singing by the school of "Joy to the World," the pastor will tell the story of "Why the Chimes Rang." This will be followed by the various departments of the school presenting their "white gifts far the King," with appropriate songs. The gifts thus brought will be used by the committee for missions, for helping the needy families and for other worthy objects.

prelude, Grand Choeur in C, Salome; hymn No. 73, Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, Mendelssohn; invocation, St. Cecilia, Charles Gounod (trio, Mrs. Gawler, Mr. Backing, Mr. Humphrey); Merciful and Gracious Lord, trio and chorus; Glory to God in the Highest, trio and chorus; We Believe in One God, trio and chorus; offertory organ; Holy Holy, My. to God in the Highest, trio and chorus; We Believe in One God, trio and chorus; offertory, organ; Holy, Holy, Holy (Mr. Backing and chorus); Bleesed Is He That Cometh (Mrs. Gawler and chorus); O Lamb of God (Mrs. Gawler, Mr. Backing and chorus); hymn No. 176, Christians Awake, Wainwright; offertory solo, Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion (Messiah), Handel (Mrs. Gawler); anthem, Sing and Rejoice, Barnby; organ postlude, March (Judas Maccabeus), Handel. The evening exercises are to be held at 8 o'clock. A choir of 100 voices and double quartet are to participate in the program. The opening number is to be an organ prelude, Largo, Handel; hymn (unannounced) 170, O Come All Ye Faithful, Adeste Fideles; anthem, For Unto Us a Child Is Born (Messiah), Handel; hymn 171, Joy to the World, Handel; bass solo, recit, Thus Saith the Lord; aria, But Who May Abide (Messiah), Handel (Mr. Gorbach); anthem, Surely He Hath Borne Our Griefs (Messiah), Handel; hymn 173, Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, Mendelssohn; offertory anthem, Worthy Is the Lamb That Was Slain (Messiah), Handel; Sevenfoid Amen, Stainer; organ postlude, Then Round About the Starry Throne (Samson), Handel.

Peck Chapel.

The children's choir of Peck Chape song service entitled The Universal King, tomorrow night. The choir is composed of Mabel Poore, Lilly Sullivan, Annie Gollan, Margarite Crist, Eva Miller, Wilhelmina Shaw, Dorothy Dig-get, Ida Hurley, Mary Girton, Eva Meyer, Edna Meyer, Ruby Dean, Ada Walter, Daniel Neikirk, Chester Thom-as, Lewis Goodrick, William Goodrick, Frank Bromley, Lloyd Jones, John Gol-lan and Paul Hoelman.

Takoma Park.

The Christmas cantata, The Adoration (Nevin) will be sung tomorrow evening at the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church by the choir. Solo parts will be taken by Mrs. Austin, Mrs. Hawley and L. W. Hawley. During the evening the following numbers also will be given: Bass solo, O Holy Night, Ben Morrison; Inflammatus, from Stabat Mater, soprano solo and chorus, Miss Edith (Craben end chorus) (Craben en Buss solo, O Holy Night, Ben Morrison; Inflammatus, from Stabat Mater, soprano solo and chorus, Miss Edith Graham and choir; Christmas anthem, Glory to God, by the Christian Endeaver choir

deavor choir.

At the beginning of the service there will be a congregational song service, led by the two choirs of forty voices. Both piano and organ will be used with the choruses, the former played by Mrs. Hicks and the organ by Mr. Morrison. James W. Dyre, the director of the reg-ular church choir, will be in charge of

REFORMED CHURCH.

A special service of historic interes because of its preparation by Dr. Henry Harbaugh, eighty years old, and known as the poet-preacher of the Reformed Church, was held today at 6 o'clock at Grace Church.

It consisted of old Christmas hymns, the gospel story in the language of the evangelists and the old chants— Magnificat, Benedictus, Annunciato An-geli, Gloria and Nunc Dimittis.

UNITARIAN.

Music appropriate to Christmas wil be rendered at All 'Souls' Unitarian trude Lyons, soprano, will assist. She cost Cantata, My Heart Ever Faithful and Come Unto Him, from The Messiah. Mr. Tittmann, the regular solo ist, will sing a fifteenth century Christ mas lullaby by D. Corner, and the tra-ditional Christmas song, Silent Night, Holy Night. Mr. Atwater at the organ will play as prelude (a) Pastorale, by Laidlaw; (b), March of the Magt, Du Bois; as offertory, some well known Noels, and as postlude, Adeste Fideles.

"KIDDIES" MADE HAPPY AT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

His first thought was to jump from be

CHRISTMAS RITES FOR POOR OF CITY

Big Dinners and Special Programs Offered by Various Organizations.

625 BASKETS SENT OUT BY SALVATION ARMY

Missions, Neighborhood and Friendship Houses and Home for Women Celebrate.

Christmas is being observed with special ceremonies at the Gospel Mission, the Salvation Army and other missions of the city. Big dinners, programs of special music, entertainments, cantatas and the like in great variety have been planned for the day and the week, and all of the variou clubs and other organizations included in the activities of the several missions are to participate in the elaborate pro-

At the Gospel Mission, 214 John Mar mas began last night with a cantata entitled "The Three Wise Men," given by some of the converts, assisted by a children's chorus.

mission, and, at 2 p.m., an entertainment of a varied nature of which the following is the program:

Tableaux, "The Wise Men of the East," with Mission Quartet; recitations, "Christmas Day in Norway" and the "Big Sister," Miss Loraine Brooke; Children's chorus, "The Christmas Star"; recitation, "A Christmas Flower," Irene Greenwald; solo, "Little Town of Bethlehem," Camilla Monoco; dialogue, "Christmas Joys," Belula Mandes, Margaret Smith, Mafaldi Simi, Catherine Reese, Mary Smith, Jeraldine Gatree, Camilla Monoco; children's chorus, "Smile Little Stars of Midnight"; solo, "Two Little Hands," Madaline Rockelli; chorus, "Vale of Judah," by the School; solo, "Lullaby," by Edwin Steffee; solo, "Silent Night," Catherine Reese; gospel mission quartet, "Awake and Sing"; cantata, "Santa Claus, visit to the Gospel Mission," played by Santa Claus, Edward Mc-Williams; Mrs. Santa Claus, Miss Laura Waller; Mrs. Wiggs, Miss Clara Nelson; college boys, Nat Gardiner, George Evans, Bernard Whitte and James Overstreet; college girls, Miss Flora John Roberts, Miss Katherine Fisher and Miss Ruth Kline, and snowbound guests, Mrs. Kline and Mrs. Byrne.

Dinner and Christmas Tree

At the Sunshine Home for Women street and John Marshall place northwest, W. R. Blackford, president of the organization, conducted Christmas servp.m. the inmates enjoyed a big Christmas p.m. the immates enjoyed a big Christmas tree. Later they sat down to the regulation Yuletide dinner. Among the contributions arriving from various friends of the home this week have been fruits, vegetables, cakes, etc., from the Metropolitan Church, its near neighbor, and jellies, preserves, fruit and thick, warm clothing from Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Gearhart. To all its friends the institution extends Christmas greetings.

Seventy or More Little Ones Each
Have a Stocking and a Present.

Big Dinner for All.

When the seventy-odd little ones at the Children's Hospital, 13th and where the Children's Hospital, 13th and when the seventy-odd little ones at the Children's Hospital, 13th and where the Children's Hospital, 13th and where a stocking—miles too big for him—at the foot of his bed. Giving his expense of the ward where a large Christmas tree had been placed.

Big Dinner for All.

When the seventy-odd little ones at the Children's Hospital, 13th and where a large Christmas tree had been placed.

When the seventy-odd little ones at the Children's Hospital, 13th and where a large Christmas tree had been placed.

When the seventy-odd little ones at the Children's Hospital, 13th and when the seventy-one hospital to twelve years old, and William Lawrence botts, aged twenty-one, both of Wash-aftern, were married in Rockville years old, and William Lawrence botts, aged twenty-one, both of Wash-aftern, were aged twenty-one, both of Wash-aftern, were agreed to the Wash the Children's Hospital, 13th and when the child

p.m. Troop 28 of the Boy Scouts will gather in front of the big open fireplace to see the new year in.

625 Baskets Distributed.

At the Salvation Army, with headquarters at 930 Pennsylvania avenue, the celebration of Christmas began the celebration of Christmas began Wilschester and Canton of the control and touch the pretty ornaments, but one effort was enough, for he sank back on his cot, his crippled form hunching itself in ball shape, as he breathed to the nurse, "Well, I'se can see the pretty things."

Kets containing dinners to 400 poor two, which consists of a general administrative officer, a chemist, a bacteriologist and an inspector of plumburght. the nurse, "Well, I'se can see the the nurse, "Well, I'se can see the pretty things."

Toys and other things on the tree soon were brought to him, and the twisted leg was forgotten in his sincer loy of the gifts.

Little Girl Gets a Big Doll.

Across the way was a little girl hugging, with all the strength of her small singers, a big doll. It was nearly as large as she, but the size did not matter—it was what the thing represented that counted. A nurse whispered that that counted. A nurse whispered that the little girl's cry for many weeks had been that "If Santa loves me he will give me a doll." Santa evidently loved him, for she was telling the doll a disconnected story of the Christmas free are five wards, and each has a Christmas tree of the half or her head hobbed to and fro. As the reporter moved away to see other happy face to the heart of a child. Each one was given toys, dolls and almost every; thing the heart could yearn for. At the Christmas tree decorated with thing services will again be held, happy family was presented which for pure Joy made the familis of the did and many services will again be held, happy family was presented which for pure Joy made the family with six servants and a men a mile long rest in the background.

BLAMES SIGNAL SYSTEM.

propertion. Religious services were moded with clockwork toy and a many service service of the service services of the services of the

scheduled for Christmas day itself. At 17:30 o'clock Monday the young men of the Olympia Club will sit down to their annual supper. Tuesday the King Arthur Club of boys celebrates, and members of the Woman's Club are hostesses at an evening party. The Girls' clubs and the Red Skins Club of boys have the afternoon of Wednesday set apart for their activities, and, in the evening, there will be a Christmas dance. Thursday will be featured by exercises of the Columbus Club of boys in the afternoon, and at Club of boys in the afternoon at Club of boys in the afternoon and at Club of boys in the afternoon at Club of boys in the aft

Awakened by Carol Singing. The "family" at the Florence Critten on Hope and Help Mission, 218 3d street northwest, was awakened early this norning by carol singing, after which there was a reading of a Christmas tory and prayers.

Christmas to Last a Week.

The Christmas celebration of Friendship House, 324 Virginia avenue southeast, is to continue from Monday until Friday night. The house is to be open

ROCKVILLE AND COUNTY

Washington Mother Seeks to Prevent the Marriage of Her Son.

pecial Correspondence of The Star ROCKVILLE, Md., December 25 .- In the belief that her son, Samuel P. Jar-rell, contemplates visiting Rockville to married, Mrs. Jarrell of 615 A here, asking him to refuse to issue a rfor such a paper. Mrs. Jarrell informs the clerk that her son is but eighteen years old and that she con-siders him entirely too young to "even think about marrying." In view of think about marrying." In view of the contents of the letter, disappoint-ment probably awaits the young man should he visit Rockville for the pur-

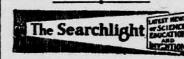
ose indicated. Miss Ada Virginia Forbees, twenty Miss Ada Virginia Forbees, twentyfive years old, and Andrew W. Mynes,
aged twenty-two, both of Raphine,
Va., were married in Rockville Thursday evening by Rev. John R. Henderson, pastor of the Presbyterian Church.
A license to marry has been issued
here to Floyd Winfield Smith and Miss
Florine Alvira Swartout, both of Takoma Park.

lellies, preserves, fruit and thick, warm clothing from Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Gearhart. To all its friends the institution extends Christmas greetings.

At Friendship House.

At Friendship House.

At Friendship House, 324 Virginia avenue southeast, the keynote of the festivities in celebration of Christmas is, as in the past, "open house," to continue from December 27 to 31 inclusive. The actual celebration began last evening, however, with a party and big Christmas tree for the children of the day nursery. Each morning, beginning with Monday, the house will be open from 10 until 12 for the brothers, sisters and friends of those children who make Friendship House their "second home." Monday from 3 to 5 p.m. the Jotoni Campfire Club will entertain a number of small Italians of the neighborhood and from 7 to 9 in the



FOR ORPHAN KIDDIES

Santa Appears at Several People Manifest Holiday Cheer. Children Get Presents.

At the orphan asylums throughout the RAIN TURNS HEAVY SNOW city today an effort is being made by those in charge to provide just as much The entire "family," from the tiniest to to the grown-up folk, assembled in the parlors around the Christmas tree to receive their gifts and share in the Christmas joys.

A big turkey dinner was served this afternoon, which had been donated by friends of the mission.

The entire "family," from the tiniest their homes there as is being enjoyed by the boys and girls who are spending the day with their parents at home. At some of the orphan asylums Christmas will mean something more than a one-day celebration, for some of the institutions are to have two Christmas celebrations one today and another later on in the holidays.

German Orphan Asylum.

Celebration of Christmas at the Ger nan Orphan Asylum began last night daily from 10 o'clock a.m. until 12 and is to continue until January 2. At o'clock noon. The following special events are also scheduled for the holiday season:
December 27, 3 to 5 p.m.—The Jotoni manner that it is celebrated in the Germanner will entertain a group of their little Italian neighbors; 7 to 9 fore Christmas and continuing until after

their little Italian neighbors; 7 to 9
p.m.—Party for boys' clubs (ages 10
to 12).

December 28, 2 to 5 p.m.—St. Paul's
Mothers' Club will entertain the
Friendship House Mothers' Club and
their children.

December 29, 6:30 to 8 p.m.—Party
for boys' clubs (ages 7 to 9).

December 30, 2 to 4 p.m.—Party for
girls' clubs (ages 8 to 12). Miss Katherine Hitchcock and Miss Josephine
Peary in charge.

December 30, 8 to 10 p.m.—Secial for
young people.

and games.

The German Orphan Asylum will have its big Christmas celebration the evening of January 2. The various societies interested in the orphanage will see that another fine big supply of presents is on hand for distribution. There will be plenty of refreshments and entertainment of various kinds will be provided.

St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum.

was sung in the chapel of the instituwas saing in the chapel of the institu-tion, Father Leonard, the chaplain of the orphanage, officiating. Christmas dinner, consisting of turkey and other good things, was served about noon, and this afternoon games are being played and Christmas presents enjoyed. Later in the holidays a Christmas en-tertainment is to be given.

St. John's Orphanage.

The little ones who are sheltered at street southeast, Washington, has writ-ten to the clerk of the circuit court Christmas service at 11 o'clock this morning at St. John's Episcopal Church, 16th and H streets, and upon their re-turn found a fine big turkey dinner awaiting them. Christmas presents were distributed and this afternoon they are playing games and enjoy the big Christmas tree that has be set up in the orphanage.

St. Joseph's Male Asylum.

Three masses in the chapel of the or phanage were attended by the boys of St. Joseph's Male Orphan Asylum at 6 o'clock this morning. Then came breakfast and then the Christmas tree. A sure enough Santa Claus was on hand and there was a big assortment of presents to be distributed.

Dinner was served at 1 o'clock and this afternoon games are being played. Washington City Asylum.

Two Christmas trees are on the pro Asylum today. A small one was dis-played this morning, but the little ones are not to be permitted to get a view of a bigger one until tonight, when the annual Christmas entertainment is to be held. At this time many presents are to be distributed. A little play entitled "A Colonial Christmas," is to be presented. It is to be largely musical.

Gifts Came From Germany.

IN GERMAN EMPIRE

Despite Rigors of the Great War.

INTO MUD AND SLUSH

Men in Trenches to Have Christmas Trees-Kaiser Spending Day at Potsdam.

BERLIN, December 24, via London December 25.—Germany is celebrating the second war Christmas under the worst conceivable climatic conditions Snow has been steadily falling through out the empire for a week, giving every promise of a white Christmas, but a twenty-four-hour steady rain has converted the Yuletide snow mantle to deep mud and slush.

In spirit, however, the nation is making of it a cheerful Christmas. Encouraged by the long record of Ger-man victories and the satisfactory conolusion of the Serbian campaign, and having made up their minds there is no immediate prospect of peace, the people in general seem determined to ignore the probability of an indefinite continuation of the war and minor discomforts, such as bread cards and other food regulations, and will celebrate the great German festival in the traditional spirit.

Christmas in the Trenches.

A large proportion of the nation's manhood, of course, will observe the day in the trenches and bomb proofs. Last year almost every dugout and shelter had its dwarfed but gayly, decorated Christmas tree and the men Midnight mass last night marked the beginning of the Christmas period at St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum. The mass tree and the men cheer from home. A similar condition will prevail tomorrow. The army auwas sung in the charal and the mass tree and the men cheer from home. A similar condition will prevail tomorrow. The army auwas sung in the charal and the men received Christmas tree and the men cheer from home. will prevail tomorrow. The army authorities this year have been most liberal in granting Christmas furloughs
and thousands of veterans will spend
Christmas with their families. For a
week past the streets of Berlin and of
other cities have been crowded with
returning soldiers, dressed in their
war-worn uniforms.

All the merchants report that they
have had a good Christmas trade. The
dealers in jeweiry and other luxuries
say they have virtually sold out their
wares, and the stocks of the expensive
florists and confectioners are almost
depleted. The toy dealers and the establishments ptronized by the masses
also have done an exceptional business
during December, which is considered
to show there is no appreciable scarcity of money.

Kaiser Spending Day at Home.

Kaiser Spending Day at Home. Emperor William this year, because of his indisposition, was able to spend Christmas with his family at Potsdam. A slight "inflammation of the cellular tissues," about which no further bulletin has been issued, confines him to his apartments, but not to bed, and he was able to attend the celebration of the Hohenzollern family Christmas tree, or rather Christmas trees, which entertainment, as usual, was held this Christmas eve in the big hall in the new palace at Potsdam.

The emperor, the empress, their daughter, their daughters-in-law and grandchildren each had an individual Christmas tree, graduated in size, on which his or her gifts were arranged and also gifts for the sons unable to leave the front.

Before the family Christmas tree celebration at the palace each princess attended Christmas exercises and later superintended the distribution of gifts at public celebrations held under her special patronage. tin has been issued, confines him to his

special patronage.

THE EVENING STORY.

Mrs. Helm's Christmas Gift.

(Copyright, 1915, by W. Werner.) Mrs. Helm was old and rich. She still

had another quality that endeared her to nobody in spite of her age and her wealth, and that quality was miserli-ness. The neighbors said she scarcely allowed herself enough to eat and wore her clothes until they were in tatters. Nobody could remember when Mrs Helm did not live in the great red brick house on Helm hill. That splengreat-grandfather, and Helms lived in it ever since. But, as the years St. Nicholas lived in Holland and was St. Nicholas lived in Holland and was gone to decay. From time out of mind Bishop of Amsterdam, where his mem-Helms had married Helms. Finally it Bishop of Amsterdam, where his men. Helms had married neims. Finally it ory is honored by a fine statue. His was observed that fewer children came traditional liberality to his parishion- to romp through the vast rooms, and ers led to the custom of hanging up at last no children came at all. The the children's stockings on his feast older members died, leaving none to day so that he might drop a gift therein. In Holland Santa Claus is not only the patron saint of children, but also the patron of scholars, prospective times had scarcely sufficed to hold the great brood that had foregathered in brides, sailors and parish clerks. He it was now seldom occupied, and then is also the patron saint of Russia. of her race, who must be assisted into it. And she, so old in years that she As in previous years, the St. Nicholas had outlived every acquaintance of day gifts in Holland this year were her youth, was yet so poor in spirit largely of German manufacture. The the veriest beggar at the gate could of new and ingenious design, mest of man's only cow died. Would she help them naturally suggested by war. Pic- a little toward replacing his loss? Not

tury-old elms. It was a tradition with Woodend folk that the elms were planted the year Mrs. Helm was born to commemorate her birth. But Christmas week to Mrs. Helm was no different from any other week. Sometimes a passing neighbor would salute her with a "Merry Christmas, Mrs. Helm," but that was all. Somehow, tonight, sitting there alone, she felt curiously unlike herself. Sarah was gone, and, despite her anger, Mrs. Helm missed the companionship of her old servant. unlike herself. Sarah was gone, and, despite her anger, Mrs. Heim missed the companionship of her old servant. She thought of many things, even if she did eat the peaches and insist on having real coffee. Sarah had been always kind; always anxious that her mistress should be promptly served. "What if I were to die here, quite by myself," reflected Mrs. Helm, bitterly. "Sarah was always fearing I might, but I won't," and she looked at the clock. "Nearing midnight. I must go to bed." But she sat till it seemed to her the clock did not tick right. It seemed to tick alowly, and, as she listened to it, more slowly still. She stretched out her hand toward the clock face; something rose in her throat; her hand fell; her breath came in long, slow gasps. But she rallied. "Really, this is very strange," she thought, confusefly. "I'm so old. Sarah said I might go—out like the—"her head nodded—"snuff of—a—cand-l-e." She made one last great effort to pull her forces together, but failed. Her mind was clear. "Guess—I'm a—goner," she thought. "Perhaps—this is—death." She settled down in her chair, her head tilted against the cushlons.

Mrs. Helm's old eyes opened upon

chair, her nead third against the consistency.

Mrs. Helm's old eyes opened upon new scenes. She quite understood that she was dead to the world she had formerly lived in. Yet, if this were death, how curiously like life it was after all. Yet there was a difference, too. Throngs of people were walking all about her, some of whom she recognized.



pulse."
A tall, graceful man walked up to Mrs. Helm and took her hand. "I bid you welcome." said he, with a genial smile. "May I ask what was your besetting sin in life?"
"I had no besetting sin," replied Mrs. Helm, loftly. "It's a mistake. I don't belong here."
"There's no mistake," asserted the gentleman, positively. "You have but just arrived, and probably don't under-

Mrs. Heim felt a touch of het all gentleman who had spoken to her before was at her side. "Never mind those lunaties," he said, encouragingly. "If you can't remember your sin don't doubt that you had one. God has refused heaven to you. I am Sa-

an." Mrs. Helm struggled. "I am rich." she screamed, trying to stand on her feet. "Oh, why—" She fought—she struck out blindly to the right and the left. "Away, away with you ali."

away from you, and I am back to ask you to let me stay with you as long as I live."

Mrs. Helm turned feebly in her chair. As her brain cleared she recognized her surroundings, yet she doubted. Her face was very pale.

"Sarah, are we really alive, you and I—or—are we not?"

"Of course, we're alive!" cried Sarah, hastily.

"And that young widow——"

"And that young widow——"

"At he remain to do the work," commanded Mrs. Helm, wearily. "Do you also remain to sit with me, at your old wage, and with the best food to eat the market affords. From this time on until the day I die I am a changed woman. I'll hunt up the poor and the old and the sick and the miserable of this world and I'll make them comfortable, if not happy. I know just what my besetting sin is, though I would not confess it to them down there." She pointed to the floor, looking darkly as she did it.

Sarah stared curiously at her mistress.

"Madam," said she, in a hushed there rable each patient was presented was an evidence of appreciation of the cheer made possible therough Mrs. Zinkham's afternoon, and on every face was an evidence of appreciation of the cheer made possible thought his afternoon, and on every face was an evidence of appreciation of the cheer made possible thoughth afternoon, and on every face was an evidence of appreciation of the cheer made possible thoughth afternoon Mrs. Zinkham's afternoon and the workhouse. All work ceased, and the inmates enjoyed a good dinner, consisting of roast pork and home-grown vegetables. Tomorrow afternoon the prisoners will be entertained at a musical to be given in the rest hall, a feature of which will be several renditions by a prisoners' quartet. Ralph Whittaker, son of the surfinement of the institution, will direct the program.

At Tuberculosis Hospital.

Patients at the Tuberculosis Hospital were given a turkey dinner today and in other ways made to feel the spirit of the season. Each ward was provided with a Christmas tree, and at the dinner table each patient was presented.

Sarah stared curiously at her mistress.

"Madam," said she, in a hushed voice, "that was an awful fit I found you in. You were striking out with your fists and screeching and frothing at the mouth. That must have been a terrible dream."

Mrs. Helm shook her head. "It was no dream, Sarah," she declared. "It was a vision into eternity. I thank God for opening my eyes, even at this late day. This year He has given me a Christmas gift, indeed—the great gift of a new heart and a better purpose. Let us to our knees, Sarah, and thank Him for all His mercies."

Him for all His mercies."
[THE END.]

Soap Box Club Elects Officers.

Christmas Observed at Workhouse and Various Other Institutions.

JUVENILES HAVE FUN AND GET MANY GIFTS

Children Sing for Old Folks-Tree for Prisoners at

bration at the juvenile institutions, Christmas was observed today by several hundred wards of the District omposing the workhouse, jail, Home and industrial and training school

Christmas trees and entertainments for the boys and girls; rest and recreaion for the inmates of the workhouse and good dinners for everybody comthose who temporarily are being cared

for by the municipality. for by the municipality.

Washington's juvenile charges were up early eager to begin the busiest and happiest day of the year. At the industrial Home School Old Santa had the assistance of parishoners of St. Alban's Church, who answered the letters of the Protestant boys. His other emissaries here were the National Cathedral School for Girls, which answered the letters of the girls who attend St. Alban's, and the Christ Child Guild, which provided gifts for all the Catholic children.

Santa Claus Remembers All. Christmas at this institution began last night with a tree and entertain-

nent. Music and recitations and a play entitled "A Strike in Santa Claus Land." siasm, which had its culmination in the lighting of the tree. Santa did not overlook any one, and so many pres-ents were distributed that Supt. Skinchristmas week to her was no difference to inspect their gifts. At 12:30 the children were treated to a roast turkey dinner, and at 2:30 this afternoon the home was opened for the coper in agony: "I have always lied and cheated wherever I could. In life I loved to get the better of all with whom I came in contact; but oh, in purgatory I am forced to practice lying and cheating to the exclusion of every better impulse."

A tall, graceful man walked up to

Children Sing for Infirm.

their own to the season's joys, boys at the Industrial Home School for Colored Children made an early morning belong here."

"There's no mistake," asserted the gentleman, positively. "You have but just arrived, and probably don't understand the rules of the game. Whatever your favorite sin was that will be rour punishment now. You will continue to do that sin to the exclusion of severything else. In life there is always an intermission between acts, if I may so express myself. No one sins it lapses from evil. But once arrived here the sinner is forced to practice his sin exclusively." He bowed pleasantly and walked on.

"Confess your faults," squeaked a thin, familiar voice at her elbow, in whom she recognized a former neighbor. "I like to die again and be sent where I couldn't tell a lie if I wanted to. What was your sin."

"I had no sin," asserted Mrs. Helm, positively. Dreadful groans went up from all sides.

As she looked at the grief-worn faces around her a man sprang at her, his fingers clutching at her throat. "I kill," he shouted; "in life I killed because I could. Here I kill because I must."

Somebody pushed him aside. "Let her alone," cried a voice, "she's just come and she hasn't confessed why she came."

Mrs. Helm tore herself away from the school planer for Old Folks.

"There's no mistake," asserted the gentleman, positively. The service and every girl given a present. The confessed why she came."

Mrs. Helm tore herself away from the school planer for Old Folks. pilgrimage to the Home for the Aged

came."

Mrs. Helm tore herself away from them. "Tve done nothing," she cried; "nothing at all."

They all shouted in chorus: "That's the worst of it. That means you have gone through life passively—a sort of nonentity. There are sins of omission as well as commission. Why, you're not even fit to stay with us." And a great, mocking laugh reverberated through the place.

Mrs. Helm felt a touch on her arm. The tall gentleman who had spoken to her before was at her side. "Never the before the before the before the before the before the before the side. The before t members of the First Presbyterian Church gave a service of song, a feature contributed annually.

During the holidays a moving picture entertainment is to be given at the home by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Other societies and churches will join in making the season one to be remembered by the old folks.

Christmas Tree at Jail. Old Sarah had her mistress by the hands. She was shaking like a leaf in a gale. "Oh, my dear, my dear." Sarah was saying, tears streaming down her wiskled cheeks "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks" "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks" "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks" "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks" "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks" "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks "Oh my dear mistribled cheeks" "Oh my d Prisoners from the jail were lifted was saying, tears streaming down her wrinkled cheeks, "Oh, my dear mistress—that I should have left you, even for one night. Do speak to me."

Mrs. Helm looked vaguely at her old servant. "Are you in purgatory, too, Sarah," she quavered, her dark eyes glancing furtively around. "What have you done to bring you to a place like this?"

"Done? wept Sarah. "Don't you know where you are? I couldn't sleep away from you, and I am back to ask you to let me stay with you as long as I live."

Mrs. Helm turned feebly in her chair. tendent, who provided her annual

with a Christmas tree, and at the dinner table each patient was presented ner table each patient was presented with a package containing an apple, orange, banana, figs, raisins, dates and nuts. No special services were held, though a great many patients received visits from relatives and friends.

A turkey dinner was provided for the veterans who are quartered in the A turkey diffice was protected in the temporary home for Union ex-soldiers and sailors. Among the guests were E. R. Campbell, president of the board of management. A musical program was rendered during the dinner.

Crew of the Yaqui Landed. pecial Correspondence of The Star.

TURKS ISLAND, West Indies, De-At a meeting of the Soap Box Club, held Wednesday night at the home of S. O. Plummer, the following were elected: George L. Walton, president; William P. Thomas, vice president; Albert H. Adams, financial secretary; George A. Younger, recording secretary; Nelson D. Newman, treasurer, and J. Garfield Harris, sergeant at-arms,